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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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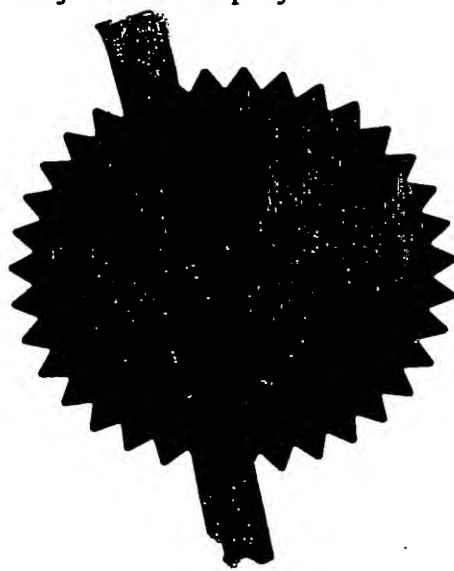
REC'D 03 FEB 2004

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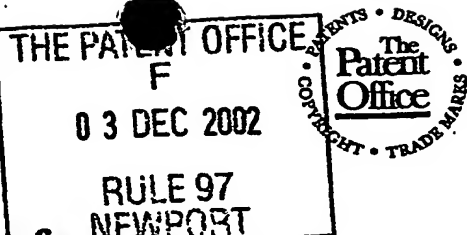
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The Patent Office

Cardiff Road
Newport
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NP10 8QQ

1. Your reference

455 154

2. Patent application number

(The Patent Office will fill in this part)

0228217.6

03 DEC 2002

3. Full name, address and postcode of the or of each applicant (underline all surnames)

A FRAME GOLF LIMITED
LOVELLS COURT, BURTON STREET
MARNHULL
STURMINSTER NEWTON
DT10 1 JJ
GB

Patents ADP number (if you know it)

If the applicant is a corporate body, give the country/state of its incorporation

8500215001

4. Title of the invention

HOLDING DEVICE

5. Name of your agent (if you have one)

"Address for service" in the United Kingdom to which all correspondence should be sent (including the postcode)

COHEN ALAN NICOL
2 GROVE PLACE
TATSFIELD
Nr. WESTERHAM
KENT
TN16 2BB

Patents ADP number (if you know it)

69 63557001

6. If you are declaring priority from one or more earlier patent applications, give the country and the date of filing of the or of each of these earlier applications and (if you know it) the or each application number

Country

Priority application number
(if you know it)

Date of filing
(day / month / year)

7. If this application is divided or otherwise derived from an earlier UK application, give the number and the filing date of the earlier application

Number of earlier application

Date of filing
(day / month / year)

8. Is a statement of inventorship and of right to grant of a patent required in support of this request? (Answer 'Yes' if:

YES

- a) any applicant named in part 3 is not an inventor, or
 - b) there is an inventor who is not named as an applicant, or
 - c) any named applicant is a corporate body.
- See note (d))

Patents Form 1/77

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Continuation sheets of this form

Description

3

Claim(s)

2

Abstract

1

Drawing(s)

6 *HE* *SW*

10. If you are also filing any of the following, state how many against each item.

Priority documents

Translations of priority documents

Statement of inventorship and right to grant of a patent (*Patents Form 7/77*)

Request for preliminary examination and search (*Patents Form 9/77*)

1

Request for substantive examination (*Patents Form 10/77*)

Any other documents
(*please specify*)

11.

I/We request the grant of a patent on the basis of this application.

Signature

AC

Date

02/12/02

12. Name and daytime telephone number of person to contact in the United Kingdom

A. N. Cohen

01959 577172

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- 1 -

Holding Device

The present invention relates to equipment for storing and transporting elongated objects such as golf clubs.

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Golf clubs are normally carried around a golf course in a bag in which the clubs are placed which bag can be carried or mounted on a trolley etc. When the bag is carried the weight of the bag adds considerably to the weight to be carried and when the clubs are placed in a car boot or similar transport the bag takes up a considerable amount of space.

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US patent 5669514 discloses a golf club holder with two separated discs with U shaped cut outs by which golf clubs can be held. The discs are held together by a rigid tube. Such a device is complex to assemble and disassemble and can have difficulty accommodating a range of golf club sizes e.g. from junior sets to full size sets and in use must be used in an upright position otherwise the clubs lay on the ground.

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In order to overcome these disadvantages I have devised a means for readily transporting golf clubs and like elongated objects which takes up very little space and is light in weight.

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According to the invention there is provided a carrying device for golf clubs which device comprises at least two rigid frames each of which has, around its periphery, a plurality of holding means adapted to detachably hold a golf club so that, when two of the said frames are spaced apart and one or more of the golf clubs held in corresponding holding means in each of the frames, a substantially rigid or semi rigid structure is formed with there being no fixed connector connecting the frames.

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The holding means is preferably in the form of a shaped indentation in the periphery of the frame of dimensions such that when the golf club to be carried is placed in the indentation it is held as a tight fit by the natural resilience of the material, as golf clubs are substantially circular a suitable shape for the indentation is in the form of a circle of appropriate diameter with part of the circumference being a gap of width less than the width of the object so the object can be inserted through the gap and pressure held; this type of holding is often referred to as 'snap fit'. Alternatively U shaped

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indentations can be cut in the outside of the frames.

5 When the device is to be used for carrying golf clubs the rigid frame preferably has at least fourteen holding means to accommodate the maximum number of clubs permitted, although there can be more holding means to hold such items as ball retrievers etc.

10 The frame is preferably made of a plastics material such as a rigid polyvinylchloride, polypropylene, polycarbonate, polyurethane, nylon etc. or similar polymer or copolymer.

In order to increase its rigidity there can be a raised lip around the periphery of each frame which acts as a strengthener for the frame.

15 Preferably at least one part of each frame protrudes beyond golf clubs held in the frame so that when the frame is placed on the ground the said protruding part of the frames holds the clubs clear of the ground.

20 Preferably in the frame there are means for holding one or more of golf balls, tees pencils, score cards, pitch repairers etc. which may be required by a golfer. There can also be means for holding a bag for storing valuables and money and means whereby a strap can be attached. If an umbrella is to be carried then there can be a separate arrangement for storing it.

25 In use two of the devices, which preferably are of substantially the same shape, are spaced apart and a golf club inserted into the corresponding holding means in each frame positioned so that the shaft of the club is held, further clubs are then added until all the clubs are in position. The device then forms a rigid structure which can be picked up and carried around. In play, when a club is required it is removed for use
30 and the other clubs hold the structure rigid. After use the club can easily be replaced.

The weight of the structure is the weight of the clubs etc. plus the weight of the two frames and thus is considerably lighter than carrying clubs in a bag. For transporting the clubs in a car boot, the clubs can be removed from the device and the two frames
35 then take up very little room over and above the room taken by the clubs.

Although there is no fixed connector connecting the frames i.e. attached to each frame there can optionally be detachable supports connecting the frames e.g. by having further holding means in each frame which can grip support rods.

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For use in wet weather there can be an overall cover which can be placed around the device to protect the clubs.

The invention is described further in the accompanying drawings in which

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Fig. 1 is an isometric view of the assembled device with golf clubs etc. in position.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of one frame

Fig. 3 is an enlarged view of the holding means of fig. 2

Figs. 4 is a plan view of a frame with a reinforcing lip and

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Figs. 5 and 6 are views showing protection and carrying arrangements.

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Referring to figs 1, 2 and 4 a rigid frame (1) has a series of snap fit type holding means (7) positioned around its periphery. There are holes (4) which can hold golf balls and holes (6) for tees. In fig 1 there is a strap (5) by which the assembled device can be carried. There are pockets (3) attached to one frame for storing items and a central holder for holding an umbrella. The part of each frame (11) and (12) protrudes beyond the clubs as shown and so the clubs are held clear of the ground.

25

In use the golf clubs are inserted in each frame as shown in fig. (1) and are held tight in the snap fit holding means (7) shown in detail in fig. (3). Balls are positioned in holes (4) and strap (5) attached. Thus the clubs can be easily carried and used.

In fig. 4 the raised lip (8) gives added strength to the plate (1).

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As shown in fig. 5 an all over cover (9) can be placed around the clubs for protection from the rain etc.

As shown in fig. 6 the cover can have a hinged lid (15) which opens as shown at (14).

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Claims

- 5 1. A carrying device for golf clubs which device comprises at least two rigid frames each of which has, around its periphery, a plurality of holding means adapted to detachably hold a golf club so that, when two of the said frames are spaced apart and one or more of the golf clubs held in corresponding holding means in each of the frames, a substantially rigid or semi rigid structure is formed with there being no fixed connector connecting the frames.
- 10 2. A carrying device as claimed in claim 1 in which the frame comprises a plate which has indentations around its periphery each of which indentations is adapted to hold the shaft of a golf club.
- 15 3. A device as claimed in claim 2 in which an indentation is in the form of a circle of appropriate diameter with part of the circumference being a gap of width less than the width of the shaft of the golf club so the golf club shaft can be inserted through the gap and held by pressure.
- 20 4. A device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which each frame has at least fourteen holding means,
- 25 5. A device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which the frame is made of a plastics material such as a rigid polyvinylchloride, polypropylene, polycarbonate, polyurethane, nylon or similar polymer or copolymer.
- 30 6. A device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which there is a raised lip around the periphery of each frame which lip acts as a strengthener for the frame.
7. A device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims 2 to 6 in which there are means for holding one or more of golf balls, tees pencils, score cards, pitch repairers etc. which may be required by a golfer.
- 35 8. A device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims 2 to 7 in which there are means for holding a bag for storing valuables and money and means whereby a strap can be attached.

9. A device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims 2 to 8 in which there is an arrangement for holding an umbrella.
- 5 10. A device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims together with an overall cover which can be placed around the device.
- 10 11. A device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which at least one part of each frame protrudes beyond golf clubs held in the frame so that, when the frame is placed on the ground the said protruding part of the frame holds the clubs clear of the ground.
12. A carrying device as hereinbefore described with reference to the drawings

- 6 -

Abstract

5 A golf club holder comprises two spaced apart plates, each of which has indentations around its periphery into which the shaft of a golf club can snap fit so that a rigid structure can be formed of the two plates and the golf clubs.

1/6

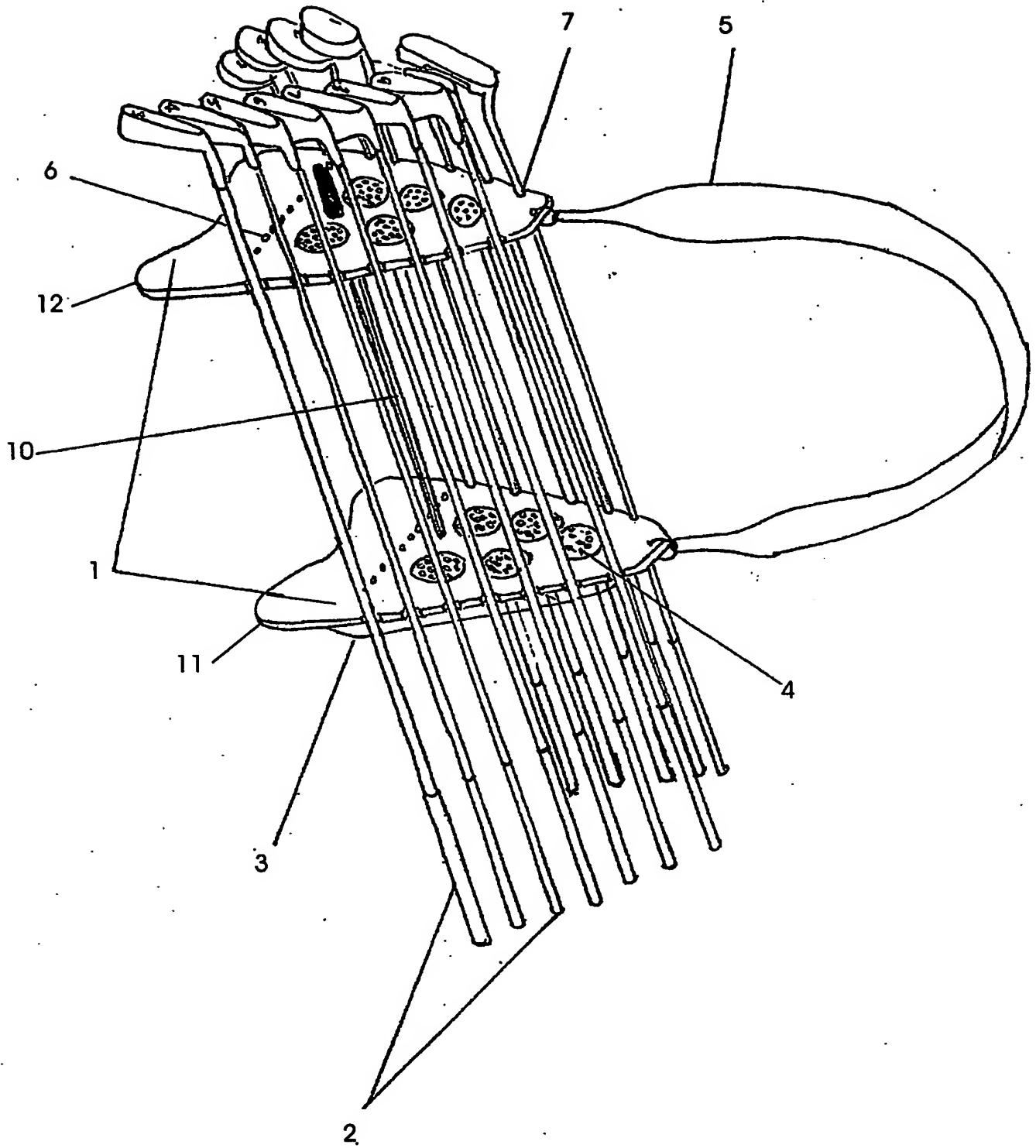


Fig. 1

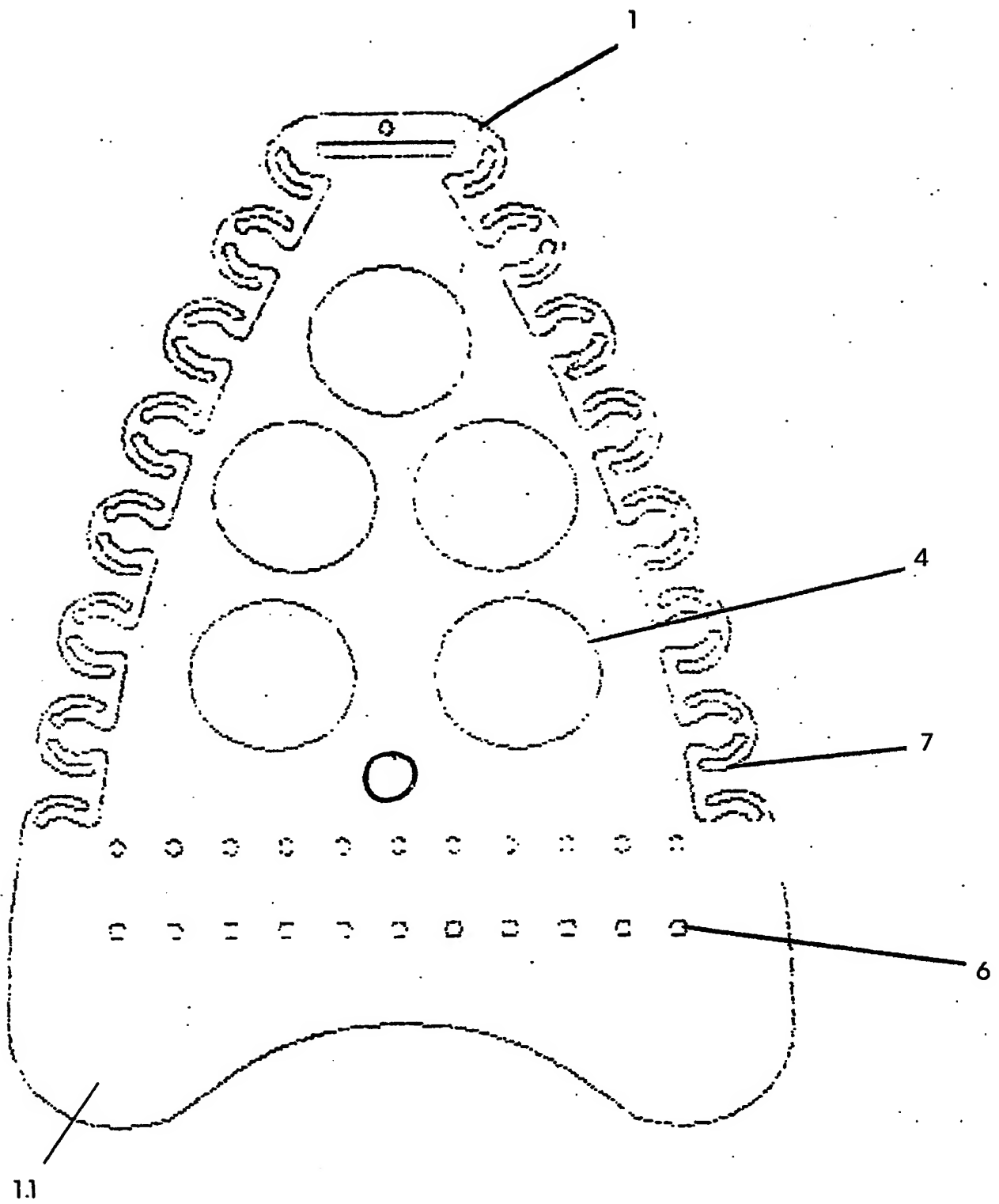


Fig. 2

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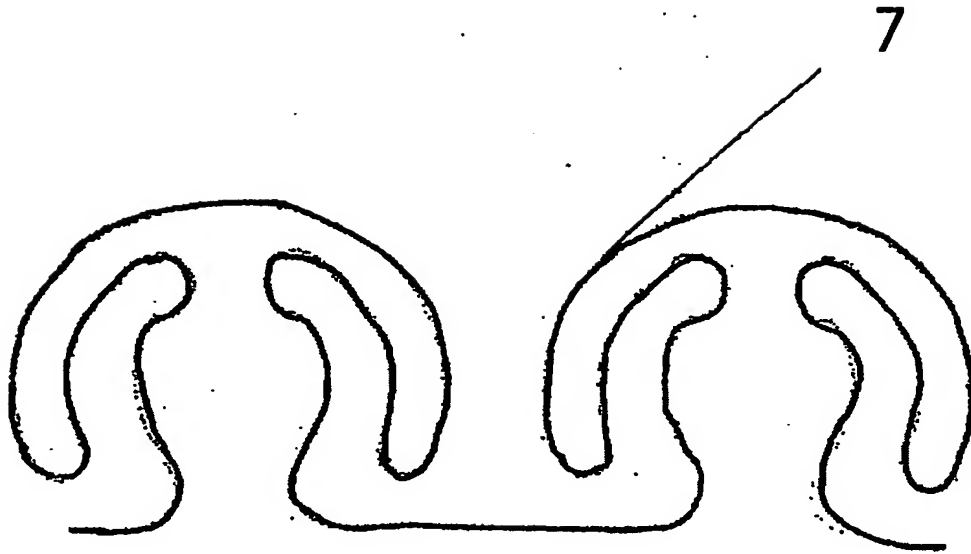


Fig. 3

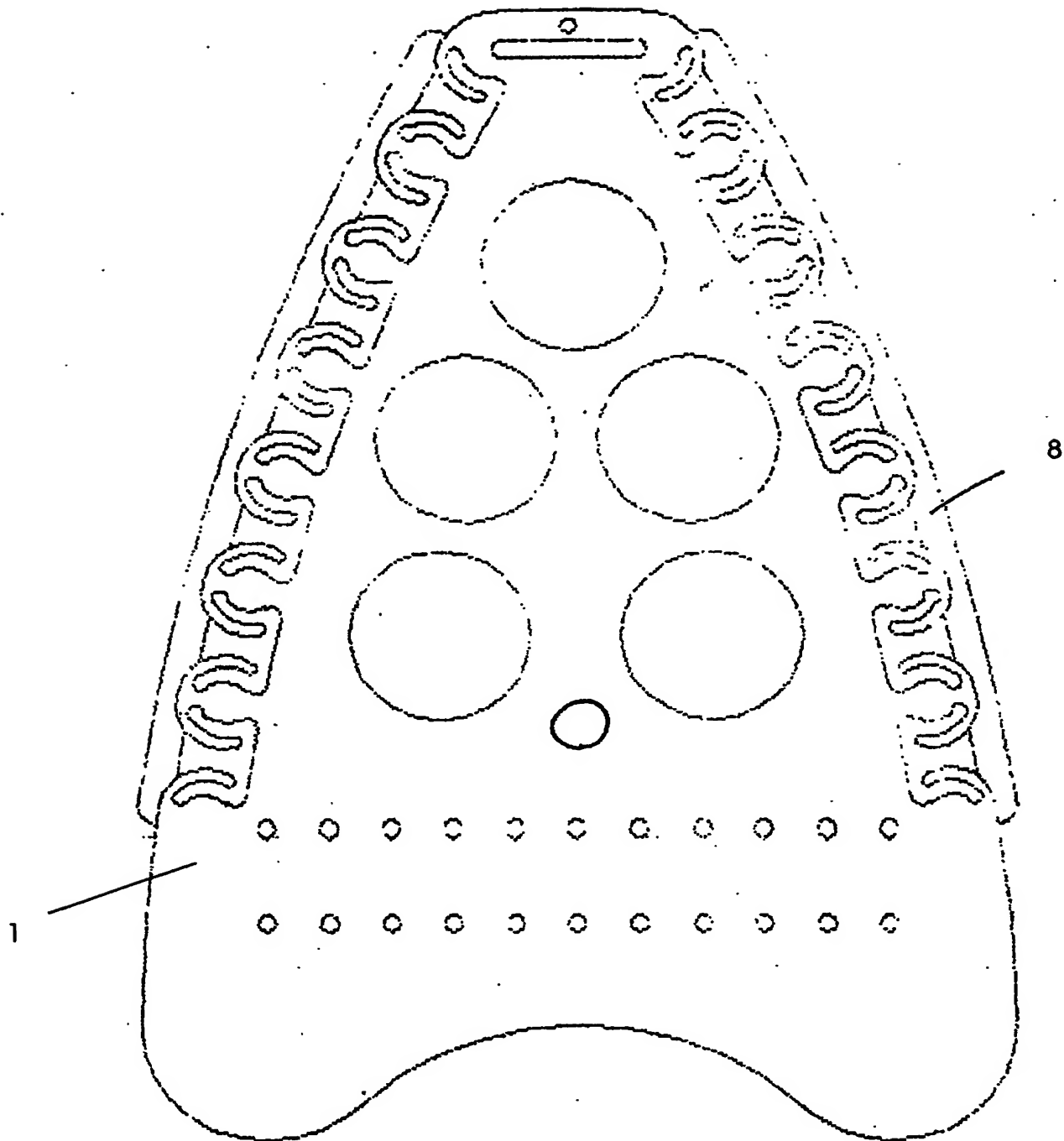


Fig. 4

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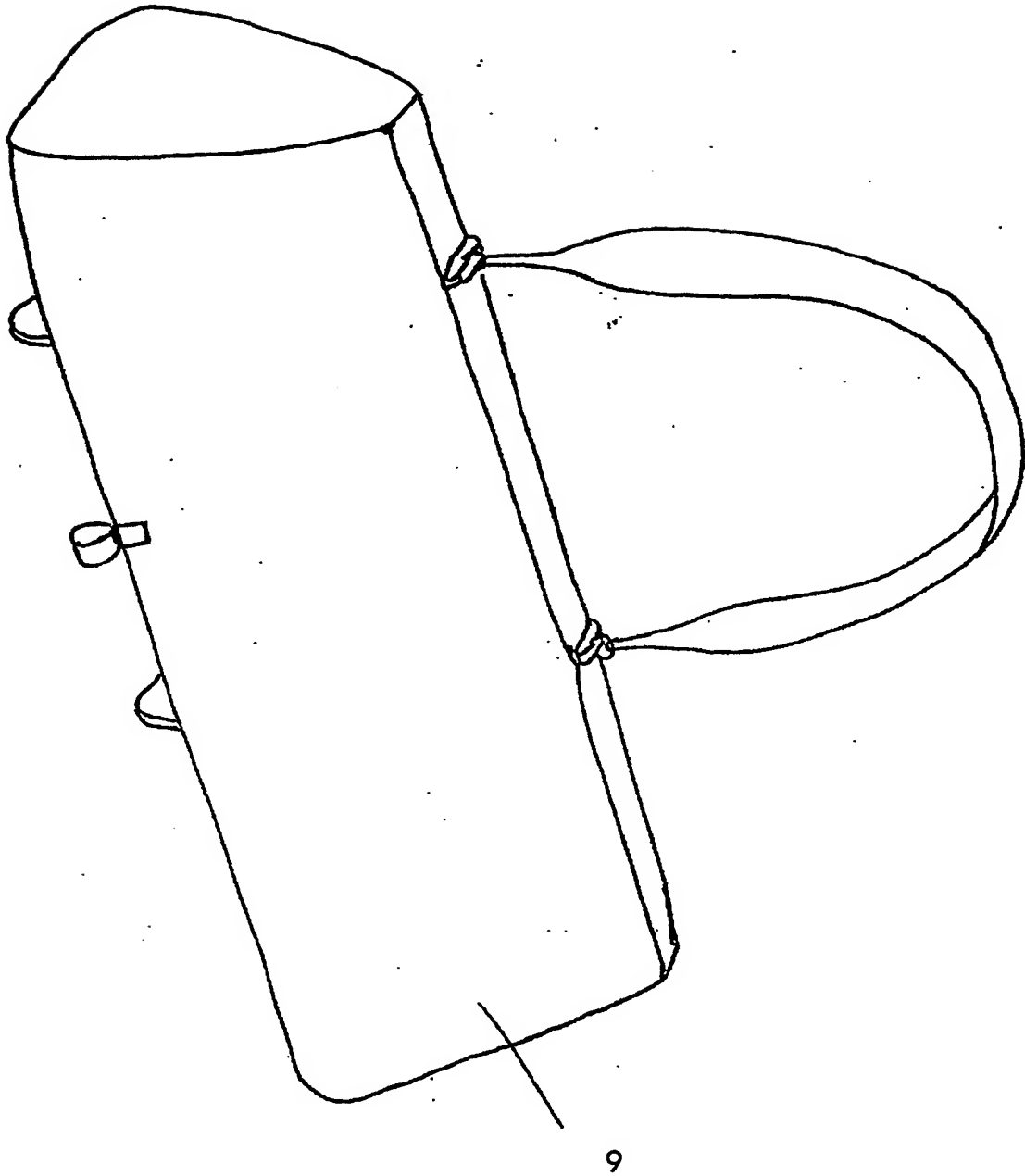


Fig. 5

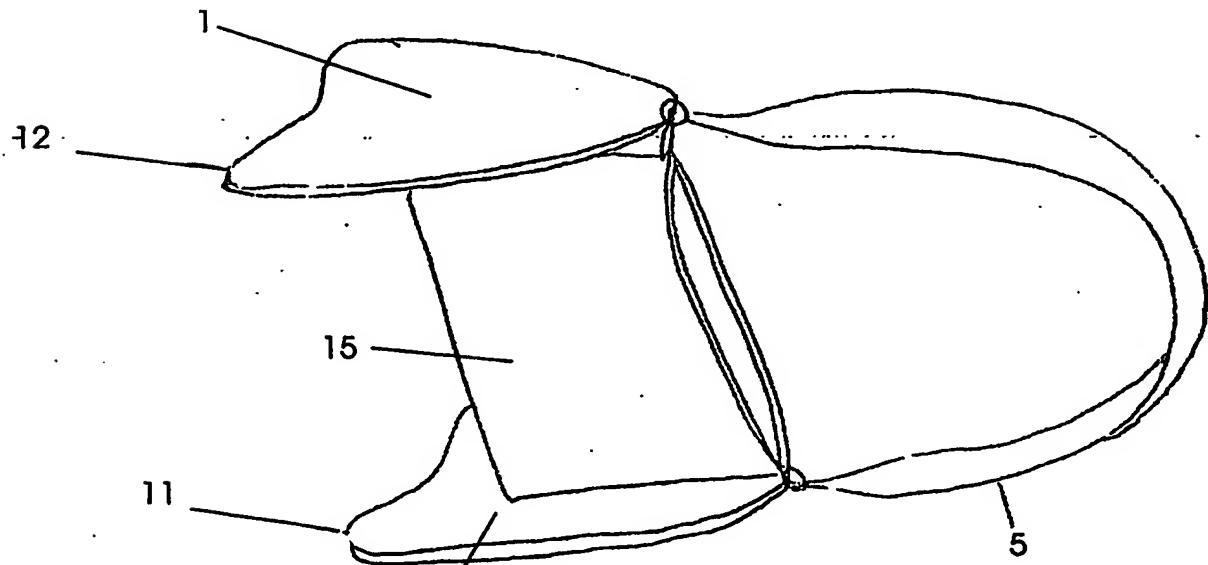
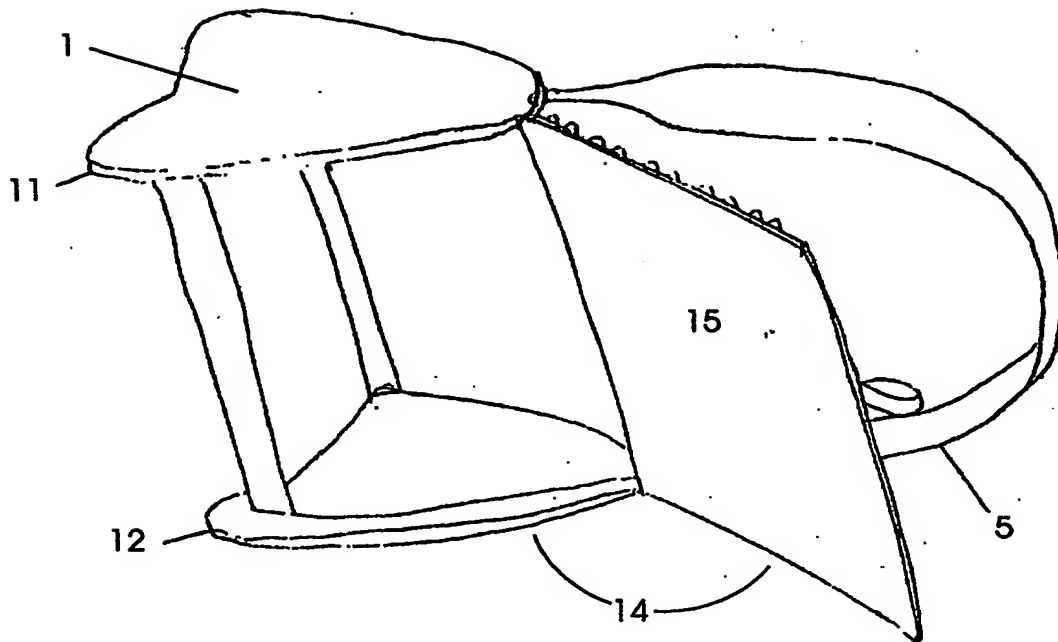
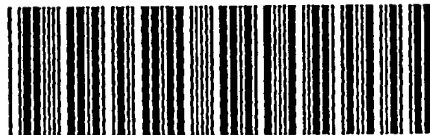


Fig. 6

PCT Application

GB0305282



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